

The OSCILLATOR

Volume 29 Issue 6
June 2006

Oregon Tualatin Valley Amateur Radio Club

The Oregon Tualatin Valley Amateur Radio Club is a special service club related to ARRL: The National Association for Amateur Radio. We seek to advance the Amateur Radio Service through:

- ⇒ Education and Training of new and licensed amateurs
- ⇒ Public Service and Emergency communication
- ⇒ Hobby nets, contests and meetings
- ⇒ Social events

Membership is available to anyone interested in amateur radio. A license is not required.

KK7TN PARAGRAPHS Don Stettler KK7TN

June is a busy month and from my perspective a month I hope we will survive. For those of us involved with the Washington County ARES there will be a Simulated Emergency Test on June 14th. Many of the county's governmental agencies will be involved in the SET that will imagine a terrorist attack. Of course, that evening is meeting night. June 16 - 18 is the 25th Annual Sea-Pac at Seaside. The following weekend, June 24-25, is Field Day at West Union Elementary School. You will not lack for things to do in June. Support the club with your participation.

I continue to be astounded by the many modes available for ham radio. My latest adventure has been in APRS - Automatic Position Reporting System. With APRS a station reports its present location in longitude and latitude. A receiving APRS station can see where the reporting system is on a mapping system. Of course, this really gets interesting when the reporting station is mobile. If APRS only reported location it would be pretty nifty but it goes beyond that. Besides location, APRS stations can send brief messages and bulletins, and give weather reports. APRS requires software that is now very reasonably priced and a version of Street Atlas USA that is compatible with the software. To be mobile requires a GPS and a laptop computer.

See PARAGRAPHS, P 2

Happy June Birthday

- 1 Alan R. Morse
- 2 Dennis Newton AC7UY
- 4 Leonard Thompson KA7IOB
- 8 Darwin Durr K7PSD
- 11 Hanford VanNess KE7BB
- 15 James A. Fischer KD7KTV
- 17 Gordon Sykes KE7ERY
- 21 Claire Johnson N7CM
- 22 Steven L. Willoughby N7PFJ
- 23 Bob Orr WF7Q
- 30 Maureen O'Rourke KA7LAP
- Thomas Dixon KE7FTE

Updates and corrections to
w6abm@arrl.net

CLUB MEETING

WEDNESDAY, June 14

We meet on the second Wednesday of the month at the **Beaverton Elks' Lodge, 3500 SW 104th Ave, Beaverton**. Meetings begin at 7:00 PM. Guests are welcome. Come at 6:00 PM to enjoy a no-host dinner from the Elks' Buffet.

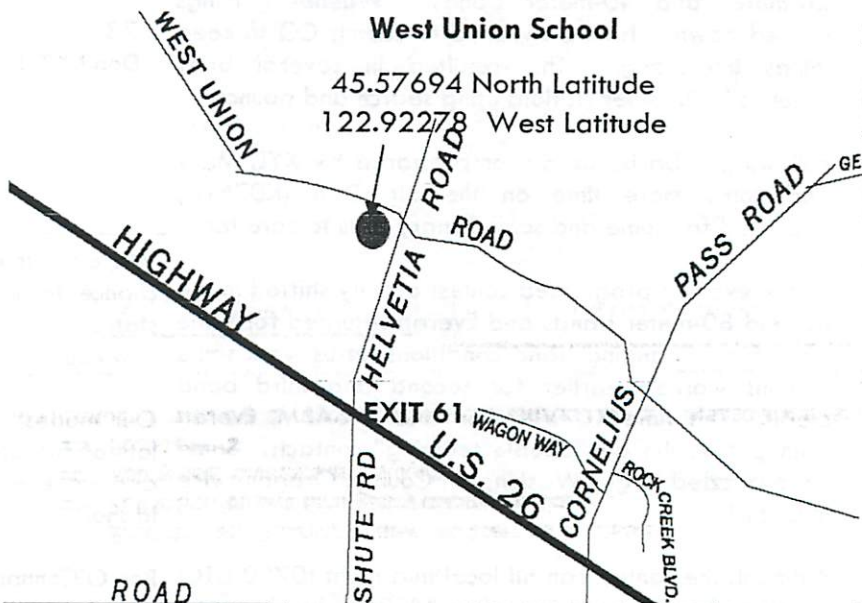
This pre-SEA-PAC meeting will feature plans for the 2006 Field Day event at West Union School in Hillsboro.

See you on June 14th. Bring or invite a guest.

OTVARC ADDRESS:

880 NE 25th Ave Ste 2-160
Hillsboro OR 97124-6258

FIELD DAY SITE



2006 7QP Debut, Ron KD7VIK

Last year the Oregon QSO Party sponsored by the Central Oregon DX Club was a single state event. This year the event was a coordinated regional QSO Party held May 6th & 7th with all eight of the 7th call area states involved.

The Indiana and New England QSO Parties were also held the same weekend, so there were plenty of stations, states and counties on the air.

Operating hours were also extended this year from 12 to 18 hours, 6:00 AM PDT to 12:00 Midnight PDT. Sunspot numbers were in the 50's and other solar factors were relatively calm.

Dan, (KD7NHJ) joined Ron, (KD7VIK) again this year to help with the contest logging. Our day started with an early breakfast at "Biscuits Café". Plenty of good food, coffee and conversation got the two of us warmed up.

After breakfast we were joined back at the ham shack by Everett, (W6ABM) and we were soon on the air logging stations on 20-meters. Due to other mid-day commitments Everett could only work a split shift, so W6ABM became our primary station call in the morning. We found lots of activity as 20-meter propagation improved over the morning.

With W6ABM's departure just before noon, KD7VIK went on the air. Per our preferred contesting method we used "search and pounce", alternating between the 20-meter and 40-meter bands. Whenever things slowed down a bit we switched to calling CQ to keep things interesting. This resulted in several brief "Pileups" with other stations using search and pounce.

Following a barbecue dinner prepared by XYL, Mary and some more time on the air, Dan (KD7NHJ) departed for home and some hungry pets to care for.

As the evening progressed contest activity shifted to the 40 and 80-meter bands and Everett returned for some more fun. Changing band conditions let us work some stations worked earlier for second and third band credit. This time KD7VIK, Ron and W6ABM, Everett both got on the air "double teaming" contacts. Some were puzzled to get Washington County, Oregon twice in a row!

Although the contest ran till local mid-night (0700 UTC) we signed off the air just after 11 PM. By then new contacts were getting scarce.

Henry Stewart N7WMW SK

William Henry Stewart N7WMW
Jan. 23, 1917 - May 16, 2006

Henry Stewart N7WMW was born Jan. 23, 1917, in Albany and died May 16th in Milwaukie, where he had lived the past several years. He was 89 years old at his passing. He held a Technician Class license.

During World War II, he served in the United States Navy. Henry graduated from Oregon State College and moved to Portland where he was chief of planning for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Henry married Azezi Azorr in 1948. She died in 1993.

Survivors include his sons, William and Dave. He leaves a sister, Dorothy; and brothers, Clinton and Russell. He had three grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. Henry was a Life Member of The Oregon Tualatin Valley Amateur Radio Club, and at the time of his passing was the second most senior in age.

Paragraphs, from Page 1

Instead of a laptop there is a device called a Tiny Trak that can be used. To me it is all magic.

See you at the club meeting on the 14th, Sea-Pac the weekend of June 16th to 18th, and at West Union Elementary School for Field Day, June 24th & 25th.

73
Don KK7TN

We even moved some stations up the band to get a chance to work them. Seven of eight 7th call area states were worked, (where was Idaho?), with lots of new counties and even a first ever state for W6ABM.

Our modest scores didn't amount to much but we had lots of fun and we're all looking forward to next year and an even bigger event. Maybe we'll even work Idaho!

Ron O'Connor KD7VIK

FIELD DAY '06 — West Union School

Field Day '06 will take place June 24 - 25 at West Union Elementary School, Helvetia and West Union Rds in Hillsboro. The location map is on the front page of this issue. The site provides opportunities for NVIS and other antenna options. The area promises to be much lower in QRN than several previous sites.

The school offers parking for The Travelers', a large field for antennae, and a great site for public demonstration of ham radio. At just a mile north of US 26 and less than 5 miles north of Hillsboro, the location is convenient to members from throughout the Tualatin Valley.

The Field Day Planning Group [J.D. Fort K7JDF, General Coordinator; Don Stettler KK7TN; Everett Curry W6ABM; and Steve Ward KE7EIQ] will make their presentation at the June 14th club meeting. Other members are providing assistance, equipment, batteries, etc. to help make this a successful event.

Operators are needed for the main stations AND to allow a full-time GOTA station operation. If you've never operated a Field Day event, Field Day ELMERS will step you through the process. We promise you'll be glad you included this ham activity on your calendar.

Amateur Radio Vs. Ham Radio

The "name game" entertains leaders in the ham radio community every now-and-then. The debate is over whether to call our hobby and service "Amateur Radio" or to call it "Ham Radio." Devotees of each can explain their perspective until we are all nauseous. The first keys the argument on the regulatory description of our service in FCC (and ARRL) official documents. The latter on the common name used to describe us.

The question is, do people "look down on us" because we are amateurs? Amateur, in the same sense as "amateur athlete" or "amateur golfer." We are "amateur" because we do not make a living at this work. The problem with ham radio is that we do not have a clear parentage for this term. We only have a few stories about the name maybe coming from this or that incident.

Let's just talk about our hobby/service with those who are not already a part of it. Share your story of operating, public service, technical pursuit, or DXing with someone you'd like to have join in the fun and service! Invite them to the club, field day, or SEA-PAC. Either name will do.

WORLDWIDE DISTRIBUTION



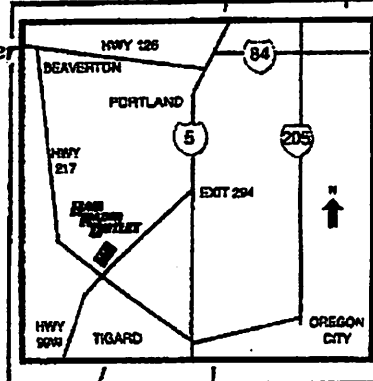
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REVIEW: Emergency Power, Everett W6ABM

Mike Bryce WB8VGE has written "Emergency Power For Radio Communications for the ARRL. Published in 2005, this book takes you through emergency power options. Yes, a lot of what you'll find in Mike's book has appeared in one publication or another. Mike is an avid QRP'er and edited the QRP Column in 73 Magazine (SK). This compilation of current emergency power intelligence is post-Katrina. Last year's hurricane season made many of us acutely aware of the need for "off the grid" options to power our emergency communications. Mike has been at it for many years...and was able to function during the great blackouts of 2003 because of he practiced "power preparedness."

Mike takes two chapters to set the stage, to give us a rationale and reveal his bias. Two more chapters give an overview of solar power and photovoltaic options. This is Mike's passion -- and he clearly wants us to give solar our attention. He deals with gas, wind, and water power generators and explains "load sizing." Battery systems, inverters, and power storage is covered. His chapter on safety considerations is a must-read for every ham radio operator, even if they do not plan on emergency power being in their future. Three appendices are included...the most helpful being a listing of QST power projects.

Pick up a copy. Its worth \$19.95 at HRO.

ARRL Antiques, Annals and Archives

The effort to archive valuable pieces of ARRL and Amateur Radio history began in earnest in 2002, when a 40 year employee of ARRL, Perry Williams W1UED, returned to 225 Main Street to put in 20 hours a week as Archivist. Shortly afterward, Charles Griffen W1GYR, a West Hartford amateur and retired librarian, volunteered to assist one day a week. As of November 9, 2005, he had logged 170 hours with ARRL this year, and nearly 700 total.

If you think preserving our history may not have much practical value, a quick story: On his way to the 2005 Dayton Hamvention, IARU Region 1 President Ole Garpestad, LA2RR, visited the Archives. He told us that the early records of the Norwegian Radio Relay League had been destroyed during the Quisling regime in Nazi-occupied Norway. Ole spent some time in the Archives area and we were able to furnish him with copies of lost documents, to his surprise and delight.

Perry Williams has been concentrating on digging into the many boxes and file drawers full of documents and photographs, with 37 of them "listed, labeled, and organized into usable form", another 66 boxes in "as found" order with documentation about their contents, and another 34 yet to be seriously examined.

Recently a very interesting map was delivered to the historical collection room by Director Walstrom. He brought a donation from a family in Iowa who found a very interesting USA call area map printed in 1930 that displayed the callsigns of all licensed amateurs and their location on the map. Of course at that time there was no "zero" call area, Virginia was a W3, some of New York was in the 8th district, and Nevada and Utah hams had 6th call area callsigns. Once repaired and mounted, this will make for a fascinating wall display somewhere in Newington in the future.

We do not have the space for a lot of physical artifacts, but have been accepting some special artifacts as they are offered to us during the year. The inventory of documents is nearing completion and once that's complete we will have to start working on the physical artifacts next.

[Information from a January, 2006, report of the History Committee of the ARRL Board of Directors]

VE EXAM SESSION

Monthly VE sessions continue on the first Saturday of each month. Our thanks to Carl WS7L for his leadership. Our next session will be held at SEA-PAC on June 17th. Contact Carl for a seat.

Carl Clawson WS7L is our OTVARC VE team leader. The Club offers all exams on the first Saturday of each month at 1:00 PM at Ronler Acres Fire Station, 4455 NW 229th Ave, Hillsboro, across from Hillsboro Stadium.

Pre-register for exams by contacting Carl, WS7L, at ws7l@arrl.net or by phone at 503.629.5796.

Check the OTVARC Web www.otvarc.org/ve for more information.

There are other exam opportunities in the area. Email to w7otv@arrl.net for locations and times.

National Incident Management Training

A visit to the FEMA web site (www.training.fema.gov/EMIweb/IS/crslist.asp) will put you in touch with the training necessary for service to the Department of Homeland Security. NIM training will be a requirement by 2007. The goal is to give all first-responders complete training in the National Incident Management System. FEMA courses are free and may be downloaded from the site above. The Incident Command course is IS-700. Most participants will complete the course in three to five hours. A final exam is online and successful students are notified by email or postal mail.

There are many other courses at the same site. Why not take a look?

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ARRL Northwestern Division Convention

Seaside, Oregon

Oregon Tualatin Valley ARC

<http://www.seapac.org>

Online Registration Open Now

Box 25466

Portland OR 97298-0466

Will Sheffield N7THL

Email: n7thl@arrl.net

22 July 2006

Coos County Hamfest

THE BARN (Bandon Community Center)

Bandon, Oregon

Coos County Radio Club

<http://www.coosradioclub.org>

Talk-In: 146.61 (no tone) & 146.52 simplex

Ron Oliver, W7VU

2041 King Lane

Myrtle Point, OR 97458

Phone: 541.572.5546

29 July 2006

Covered Tailgate & Swapmeet

Chehalis Valley ARS

Contact: John Ellingson, K7OSK

18140 Mi-lane SW

Rochester, WA 98579

<http://www.cvars.org/swapmeet.htm>

Talk-In: 147.06 (PL 110.7); 146.58

Phone: 360-791-7934

Fax: 360-273-5929

Email: k7osk@boatanchor.com

LUNCH BUNCH

Saturday, June 24, 2006

West Union Elementary School
23870 NW West Union Rd
Hillsboro Oregon

Questions?

Linda Sutton KC7YTD
kb7pww@arrl.net or 503.246.8879

Travelers' Events

The Travelers' are a socialable group and welcome any members of the club (and other hams interested in camping, RVing, etc.). The next two events for the group are:

June 24-25 Field Day West Union School

July 15-16 Skamokawa Park Columbia River

For information, contact Betty Mickley N7REX at n7rex@teleport.com.

SECTION MANAGER ELECTION

The ARRL Section Manager election for Oregon Section is over. **Bonnie Altus AB7ZQ** of Yamhill County has been elected. She is an active emergency coordinator, manages medical records at Willamette Valley Medical Center and is a member of the McMinnville Amateur Radio Club. She will replace **Randy Stimson KZ7T** who is in his second period of service in this role. He has served since July, 2003 when he was asked to step in after the recall of the previous Section Manager. He previously served from 1987 - 1998. A third candidate, **Kevin Hunt WA7VTD** of Clackamas County made his second bid for the post. He ran against Randy for the position in 2004.

Of more than 2,300 ARRL members in Oregon Section, about 46% participated in the election (1,059). Altus received 38% of votes cast, with 33% going to Stimson and more than 29% to Hunt.

Bonnie plans to retain much of the existing Section Cabinet. She will be meeting with her Cabinet at a scheduled SEA-PAC meeting this month. She officially takes office on July 1st.

Our thanks go to Randy Stimson for his faithful and committed service to amateur radio, the ARRL, and Oregon Section. Randy's passion for Cycle Oregon and emergency communications capability will continue beyond his current term of service. You can express your appreciation to Randy by email at:

Randy Stimson" <kz7t@arrl.org>

DC POWER

We know how to make connections

Wes Allen, K7WWG President
 665 SW 167th Ave. 503-531-4081
 Beaverton, Oregon 97006

Wilderness Protocol, Michael Potaczala, KC4NUS

In February 1994 QST, William Alsup, N6XMW, put forth this idea: a set of VHF and UHF frequencies and a basic schedule for monitoring the frequencies for contact from Amateur Radio operators in wilderness areas.

The primary frequency band proposed was two-meters with secondary frequencies on six-meters, 1.25-meters, 70-centimeters, and 23-centimeters. I expect by no coincidence, the simplex frequencies N6XMW suggested are also the National Simplex Calling frequencies or the Primary Simplex frequency for the bands in his proposal. The frequencies for the Wilderness Protocol are 52.525 MHz, 146.520 MHz, 223.500 MHz, 446.000 MHz and, 1294.500 MHz.

The proposed schedule for monitoring the frequencies is every three hours on the hour starting at 7 AM local time until 7 PM local time. For those radio amateurs with more time or a scanner, monitoring more often is encouraged. The basic schedule gives someone who is out of cellular service range and not able to contact a repeater a specific time when someone should be listening to get word to the proper authorities in the event of an emergency situation.

The base monitoring time is 5 minutes. I also found suggestions to start monitoring 5 minutes before the hour every other time so that minor differences on the clock of monitoring hams and hams in the woods would not cause them to miss each other. Making daily contact with a hiker to know an extended hike is going without incident, or to pass routine traffic to and from family was another suggested use for hams with opportunity to monitor the Wilderness Protocol frequencies regularly.

It occurred to me that having hams following the Wilderness Protocol can be of use to more than hikers and campers. Throughout the country hams are on the road traveling for business and pleasure. While cellular phones have become a common belt-looped appliance, there are many locations where "no signal" is the only message they will display. Vehicle accidents, mechanical failures, and worse can happen along any stretch of road.

So whether you are near a national forest, a large wooded park, or on the outer edge of suburbia, monitoring at least the primary two-meter frequency of the Amateur Radio Wilderness Protocol may provide needed assistance to someone in dire straits.

The "Oscillator" Ad Rates

The OSCILLATOR,
Our Monthly Newsletter
Oregon Tualatin Valley Amateur Radio Club

What better place to advertise your product or service? Advertising in *The OSCILLATOR* lets your fellow club members know what you have to offer. Readership is estimated to be about 250. We distribute 180+ copies per month locally, and some are transmitted via email to out of area locations.

A column inch (width approximately 3 inches), our standard rate is \$24.00 per column inch for twelve insertions. A business card is generally two column inches, or \$48.00 annually.

Full page or half-page ads will be billed at twice the number of vertical inches of layout, i.e. 6 inches wide by either 5 or 10 inches.

Ad commitments are to be paid in advance. Ad rates assume "camera ready" or jpg/gif suitable for insertion. Sorry, we are unable to accept credit cards. We reserve the right to determine suitability of copy. Copy changes during run require slightly higher rate. Check with us for your special needs.

Maureen O'Rourke KA7LAP is our Ad Manager.
Mcorourke@netzero.net or 503.591.9641.

I encourage all ARES groups to include the Wilderness Protocol in their local membership manuals and to recommend to their membership to monitor the associated frequencies as regularly as they want their membership to be monitoring their local ARES repeaters.

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HAMS STATE REP CANDIDATES

No one can seem to remember when we last elected a ham radio operator to the Oregon House of Representatives or Oregon Senate. There are various hams in state government, some of them in the State Capitol, but not as elected officials. That may all change if two current candidates have their way.

Bruce McCain N7XB and Everett Curry W6ABM have both been nominated by their party to run for State Representative in November. Both hold Extra Class licenses and have been active in their respective counties and clubs. Both are Volunteer Examiners and have a major interest in emergency communications.

N7XB is a Captain in east Multnomah County with the Multnomah County Sheriffs Office. His avocations include Civil War History and high school sports. He is a member of Portland Amateur Radio Club. He is the father of three daughters.

W6ABM is a consultant with small non-profit organizations and a financial planner. His avocations include genealogy, reading, and club leadership. He is the father of three adult children, two daughters and a son (Kevin KB7KYQ, OTVARC member). He serves as Public Information Coordinator of Oregon Section.

Bruce McCain is running in House District 47 which includes eastern Multnomah County and the City of Portland along its northeaster boundary. Everett Curry is running in House District 30 which includes eastern and northern Hillsboro, North Plains, a portion Cornelius, and unincorporated Washington County from 185th Avenue to Highway 47 on the west.



Everett W6ABM at the controls of KD7VIK for 7QP

National Road 200th Year

You may think that The interstate system was authorized by the Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1956, popularly known as the *National Interstate and Defense Highways Act of 1956* is the first appearance of an Interstate Highway System in the United States. That act, planned from the 1930s is actually the second effort at creating a national system of highways.. The Cumberland Road was America's first "Interstate Highway." President Thomas Jefferson signed legislation to open a road from Cumberland Maryland to the western frontier of the young nation in 1806. That road concluded at Vandalia Illinois -- taking until 1838 to be completed. This was the first federally funded highway.

To honor this bicentennial celebration, special event stations are being established at both ends of this famous highway. At Cumberland, mile post 1, the station will be operated by The Mountain Amateur Radio Club. You will find their web home at <http://hamtalk.org>. Click on the picture of the toll house. Two clubs will facilitate the station at Vandalia, The National Trail and The Old Capital Amateur Radio Clubs. Go to the same web site and click on the "Madonna of the Trail" button to learn more.

These stations will be operating the weekend of SEA-PAC, Saturday June 17, 2006. The Cumberland station will be on the air from 1600 to 2100 UTC (9:00 AM to 2:00 PM PDT) on 3.925, 7.270, 14.270, 18.125 SSB and 7.070, 14.070 PSK31.

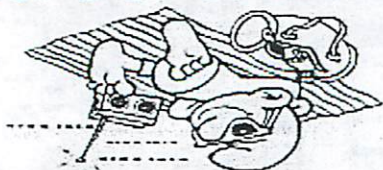
The Vandalia station will operate from 1500 to 2100 UTC (8:00 AM to 2:00 PM PDT) on 7.240 and 14.240 SSB.

Links are at <http://hamtalk.org> allow for submission of contact information with these two special event operations. Why not give these stations a try?

SEA-PAC '06
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CLUB MEETING
JUNE 14TH